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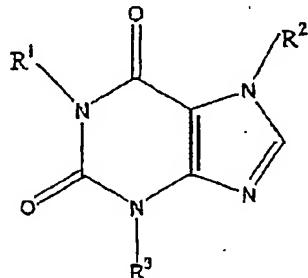
CLAIMS

1. A method of treating hair comprising the step of applying to the hair a leave on hair treatment composition comprising:

5           i) citric acid, tartaric acid, their salts or mixtures thereof; and

10           ii) a xanthine, substituted xanthine or mixtures thereof, wherein the ratio of i) to ii) is from 1:0.01 to 0.01:1.

2. A method according to claim 1 in which the xanthine substituted xanthine ii) of the hair treatment composition has the following formula:



15           in which R¹, R² and R³ are independently selected from H, substituted or unsubstituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> alkyl groups, substituted or unsubstituted C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> alkenyl groups, aryl groups, arylalkyl groups or mixtures thereof,

20           3. A method according to claim 2 in which R¹, R² and R³ of the xanthine/substituted xanthine ii) are independently selected from H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> alkyl groups, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> alkenyl or mixtures thereof.

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4. A method according to claim 3 in which R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> of  
ii) are independently selected from H, methyl groups or  
mixtures thereof.
- 5 5. A method according to any preceding claim in which the  
xanthine derivative ii) is caffeine.
6. A method according to any preceding claim in which the  
α -hydroxy acid and/or its salt if optically active is  
10 in the L-form.
7. A method according to any preceding claim in which the  
total amount of acid/salt i) is from 0.1 to 20 wt% in  
the total formulation.
- 15 8. A method according to any preceding claim in which the  
total amount xanthine ii) is from 0.1 to 20 wt% in the  
total formulation.
- 20 9. A method according to any preceding claim in which the  
hair treatment composition further comprises a  
surfactant.
- 25 10. A method according to any preceding claim, in which the  
hair treatment composition further comprises a  
cationic, or silicone based conditioning agent.
- 30 11. A method according to any preceding claim in which the  
hair treatment composition further comprises a styling  
agent.

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12. A method according to any preceding claim in which the hair treatment composition comprises an aqueous base.
13. Use of a composition as described in any preceding 5 claim for styling the hair.
14. Use of i) an  $\alpha$ -hydroxy acid, its salts or mixture therefor; and ii) a xanthine, substituted xanthine or mixtures thereof for lengthening hair and or decreasing 10 the volume of hair.
15. Use of a i) an  $\alpha$ -hydroxy acid its salts or mixtures thereof; and ii) a xanthine, substituted xanthine or mixtures thereof for increasing the high humidity style 15 retention of hair.